

April 16, 2012

**Executive Branch Agency Heads:** 

As is the case each year, a number of agencies have requested that the Office of Policy and Management approve positions to be filled on a durational basis over the upcoming summer. Most of these requests are for activities that are seasonal in nature, such as the operation of camp and respite activities for disadvantaged and disabled children and adults, maintenance of state parks and recreation facilities, and so on. OPM will soon be communicating with agencies regarding the disposition of these requests.

As of late March, Connecticut's unemployment rate decreased for the seventh consecutive month, bringing unemployment to its lowest level since April 2009. While this is good news and is indicative of positive signs in the state's economic recovery, we must not lose sight that we are still at the beginning of the recovery. Some of our neighbors continue to suffer from long-term unemployment, and some subgroups, particularly young people in urban areas, continue to suffer from devastating levels of unemployment. Addressing these critical needs and reclaiming all the jobs that were lost will take time, but my administration is committed to doing everything we can to put the state on a path that will lead to an economic revival.

With this in mind, I am asking agency heads to ensure that opportunities for approved summer/seasonal employment are widely publicized. Please work with the appropriate human resources staff at the Department of Administrative Services regarding the posting of such positions on the DAS website. Additionally, please also coordinate a strategy with the Department of Labor (contact Mark Polzella at 860-263-6572 or at <a href="mark.polzella@ct.gov">mark.polzella@ct.gov</a>.) to maximize outreach to target populations of unemployed persons regarding the availability of these summer/seasonal jobs. DOL will be tracking our success in matching unemployed persons with these opportunities and reporting those results back to us and the public.

Thank you for your attention to the state's economic recovery efforts. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of Connecticut's citizens by bringing job opportunities to those seeking employment, while at the same time continuing to provide important public services.

Sincerely,

Dannel P. Malloy

Governor